# Resources

# **Notes Page**

# Resources To Help You And Your Family

Everyone needs help sometimes. There are lots of services for parents in Massachusetts. Do not be afraid to call.

Services are listed in the following categories:

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•	Jobs and Training
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Under each listing you will find:

- A short description of the service, the phone number, and/or the website address.
- Hours the service is open—Most are open 9 AM 5 PM, unless noted. Some are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They are marked: "ALWAYS OPEN."
- Languages spoken at the service—Some services are available in languages other than English. These are marked. Some services offer the Language Line Services. This service has interpreters in 140 languages. To get an interpreter, tell the person who answers the phone what language you need. It may take a few minutes for the interpreter to be connected. Do not hang up. Be prepared to say in English that you need to speak to someone in your language.

To be **eligible** for a service means to meet certain requirements. These requirements are different from service to service. You and your family can be eligible for one and not another. Call the service. The staff there will tell you if you are eligible.

*Growing Up Healthy* has been developed by the Division for Perinatal, Early Childhood, and Special Health Needs. Call **1-800-882-1435** or visit **www.mass.gov/growinguphealthy** for more information about health insurance, primary care, family planning, home visiting, and health education. The Division is part of the Bureau of Family and Community Health at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

#### FOOD, CLOTHING, TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING

American Red Cross www.redcross.org

Disaster relief—clothing, food pantry, housing, and household goods; classes on health topics including first aid and CPR.
Your local American Red Cross chapter 1-800-564-1234
Disaster Information and Resource Center 1-866-438-4636
Languages: Some Spanish available

**Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program** 1-800-622-3637 Nutrition education for eligible families with children

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** 1-800-480-2520, 1-800-621-3362 (TTY), www.fema.gov Information on disaster and emergency planning

First Call for Help www.uwmb.org/firstcall.htm
Help with housing, food, utilities, legal support, substance abuse, parenting issues, and other basic needs
United Way of Massachusetts Bay 1-800-231-4377
United Way of Cape Cod 1-800-462-8002
United Way of Central MA 508-755-1233 (voice/TDD)
United Way of Western MA 1-800-339-7779
Languages: Some Spanish available
ALWAYS OPEN

**Fuel Assistance Program** 1-800-632-8175 Financial aid for home heating needs

#### Hunger and Food Stamp Hotline 1-800-645-8333

Coupons for groceries and referrals to local food banks Languages: Spanish

#### Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance 617-822-9100,

www.mahahome.org

Counseling for first-time home buyers and advocacy on housing issues Languages: Spanish

#### Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless 781-595-7570,

www.mahomeless.org

Donations Assistance Center provides furniture and household goods Languages: Spanish

#### Massachusetts Department of Public Health, MassSupport line

1-866-237-8274 (voice/TTY), www.mass.gov/samh

Help preparing for and dealing with disasters and crises at the national, state, or local level

Languages: Translation services available

# Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) 508-820-2000, www.mass.gov/mema

Information on disaster and emergency planning for the state of Massachusetts

**Massachusetts Tenant Organization and Resource Center** 617-367-6260 Information on tenants' rights

Medicaid Transportation Program 1-800-682-1062, 1-800-841-2900,

1-800-497-4648 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs

Consumers of MassHealth may receive funds for transportation services to and from health care services

Languages: Chinese, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese

**Project Bread Food Source Hotline** 1-800-645-8333,

1-800-377-1292 (TTY), www.projectbread.org

Information on getting food, food resources, and food stamps

#### **Salvation Army Good Neighbor Energy Fund** 1-800-262-1320,

www.massresources.org

Fuel assistance available to eligible families during the heating season

#### **UMass Extension** www.umassextension.org

Planning and preparing low-cost, healthy meals; offered on an individual basis or in small, home-based groups

Greater Boston 1-800-622-3637 Central MA 508-831-1225 Western MA 413-737-0236

Languages: Some Spanish available

#### **WIC** 1-800-942-1007, www.mass.gov/eohhs

Food for eligible pregnant women and children under 5; information on nutrition, breastfeeding, child health and development, and parenting Languages: French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Spanish

#### **FINANCIAL AID**

**Children's Medical Security Plan** 1-800-841-2900, 1-800-497-4648 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs

Health insurance to eligible children 18 and under for primary care, limited emergency care, and prescription drugs

Languages: 140 through the Language Line Services

**CommonHealth** 1-800-841-2900, 1-888-665-9993, 1-888-665-9997 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs

Health insurance for working disabled adults and children under 18 Languages: Some languages available at certain times

#### Department of Transitional Assistance (formerly Welfare)

 $1\text{-}800\text{-}445\text{-}6604,\,1\text{-}800\text{-}249\text{-}2007}$  (new applicants), www.mass.gov/eohhs Food stamps, Transitional Aid for Needy Families (TANF), and other assistance

Languages: Spanish

Healthy Start 1-800-841-2900, 1-800-497-4648 (TTY),

www.mass.gov/eohhs

Insurance for eligible pregnant women and referrals to health care and other services

Languages: French, Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, Spanish

Medicaid/MassHealth 1-800-841-2900, 1-888-665-9997 (TTY),

www.mass.gov/eohhs

Health insurance for eligible families

Languages: Chinese, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese

**Supplemental Security Income** (SSI) 1-800-772-1213, www.ssa.gov Financial assistance for eligible children and adults with disabilities

#### **HEALTH**

AIDS Hotline 1-800-235-2331, 617-437-1672 (TTY) Information, referrals, and support for HIV- and AIDS-related issues HOURS: Mon-Fri, 9 AM-9 PM; Sat, 10 AM-2 PM Languages: Spanish

**Al-Anon** 508-366-0556, www.ma-al-anon-alateen.org Support for family members affected by alcoholism or other substance abuse HOURS: Mon-Fri, 10 AM - 3 PM

**American Academy of Pediatrics, MA Chapter** 781-895-9852, www.aap.org Information about child health issues

American Cancer Society 1-800-ACS-2345, www.cancer.org Information on screening, free examinations, diagnostic services, treatment, and transportation Languages: Khmer, Portuguese, Spanish

**Anonymous HIV Testing** 1-800-750-2016, 617-437-1672 (TTY) Information and referrals for HIV testing and needle exchange programs Languages: 140 through the Language Line Services HOURS: Mon, Wed, Thurs, 9 AM-9 PM; Tues, Fri, 9 AM-5 PM; Sat, 10 AM-2 PM

**Ask-a-Nurse** 1-800-544-2424 Information and referrals ALWAYS OPEN

**Depression After Delivery** www.depressionafterdelivery.com Information for new parents and referrals to local providers and support groups

#### Good Grief Program 617-414-4005

Training for providers and teachers about children and grief; books, videos, and other resources

Health Care for All Helpline 1-800-272-4232, www.hcfama.org Advocacy and help with getting health care Languages: Haitian Creole, Spanish

La Leche League 1-800-LA-LECHE, www.lalecheleague.org Telephone counseling on breastfeeding, new mothers' groups, and information on breast pump rentals and sales

**Lead Paint Hotline** 1-800-532-9571, www.mass.gov/eohhs Information about lead laws and consumer rights; referrals for lead screening, inspection, and deleading Languages: Spanish

Massachusetts Center for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Hotline 1-800-641-SIDS Information and counseling about Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

ALWAYS OPEN

Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling 1-800-426-1234, 617-426-1855 (TTY), www.masscompulsivegambling.org Counseling and referrals for gamblers and their families ALWAYS OPEN

Massachusetts Dental Society 1-800-342-8747, www.massdental.org Referrals to dentists and special needs dentistry

Massachusetts Department of Mental Health 1-800-221-0053, 617-727-9842 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs
Emergency evaluations and community-based services for persons with mental health diagnoses

Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation 1-888-DMR-4435, 617-624-7783 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs
Services for children with mental retardation and their families

Massachusetts Family Planning Program 617-624-6060, www.mass.gov/eohhs

Referrals to family planning clinics, and information about birth control and reproductive health services

Massachusetts Immunization Program 1-888-658-2850, www.mass.gov/eohhs
Information about immunizations and where to get them

Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers 1-800-475-8455, www.massleague.org
Referrals to local health centers and information about free or reduced-

Referrals to local health centers and information about free or reducedcost health care

Languages: Spanish, Vietnamese

**Massachusetts Psychiatric Society** 781-237-8100, www.psychiatry-mps.org Referrals to mental health providers

#### Massachusetts Substance Abuse Information and Education Helpline

1-800-327-5050, 617-536-5872 (TTY)

Referrals to substance abuse treatment services

Languages: 140 through the Language Line Services

**ALWAYS OPEN** 

#### National Center for Death Education 617-928-4649

Referrals for grief counseling and recommendations on books and videos

#### National Mental Health Association 1-800-969-6642,

1-800-433-5959 (TTY), www.nmha.org

Referrals to mental health providers and information on mental health

#### National Women's Health Information Center 1-800-994-WOMAN,

1-888-220-5446 (TDD), www.4woman.gov

Resources and information on women's health issues

Languages: Spanish

#### Nursing Mothers' Council 617-244-5102, www.bace-nmc.org

Breastfeeding counseling and rental of breastfeeding pumps and other aids Languages: Spanish (by referral)

Physician Referral Service 1-800-322-2303 ext. 6094

Referrals to physicians based on language, location, and specialty

Languages: Spanish

#### Planned Parenthood 1-800-682-9218, www.pplm.org

Referrals to confidential pregnancy testing; reproductive health services and information

Languages: Haitian Creole, Spanish

#### Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222, 1-888-244-5313 (TTY),

www.maripoisoncenter.com

Emergency advice about poisoning, and information on poisons

Languages: 140 through the Language Line Services

**ALWAYS OPEN** 

#### **Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Control Program** 617-983-6940

Locations and hours of clinics that screen and treat sexually transmitted diseases; information on STDs

Languages: Spanish

#### Smokers Quitline 1-800-TRY-TO-STOP (English),

1-800-8-DEJALO (Spanish), 1-800-TDD-1477 (TDD)

Counseling and referrals to local smoking cessation programs

Languages: 140 through the Language Line Services

**ALWAYS OPEN** 

#### **SAFETY**

#### **Auto Safety Hotline** 1-800-424-9393

Information about car safety seats, air bags, and passenger safety Languages: Spanish

#### Child Witness to Violence Project 617-414-4244,

www.childwitnesstoviolence.org

Counseling for children who have witnessed violence, especially family violence

Languages: Spanish

#### **Child-At-Risk Hotline** 1-800-792-5200

To report child abuse; follow-up services include crisis intervention and emergency services, counseling, protective child care, parent aide services, substitute care, and case management ALWAYS OPEN

#### Consumer Product Safety Commission 1-800-638-2772,

1-800-638-8270 (TTY), www.cpsc.gov Information on toy safety, product recalls, and safety alerts

#### **Disabled Abuse Hotline** 1-800-426-9009

To report abuse of people with disabilities

#### Domestic Violence Hotline 1-877-785-2020

Referrals, peer support, and information on location and availability of shelters

Languages: Spanish and 140 through the Language Line Services ALWAYS OPEN

#### **Elder Abuse Hotline** 1-800-922-2275

To report neglect or financial, psychological, or physical abuse of people 60 years of age or older; counseling and referral services Languages: 140 through the Language Line Services ALWAYS OPEN

#### **Massachusetts Car Safety Hotline** 1-800-CAR-SAFE

Locations of car seat loan programs, information about passenger safety, child safety seat installation, and recalls

Rape Crisis Center 1-800-841-8371, 617-492-7273 (TTY), www.barcc.org Crisis counseling and referrals for rape victims Languages: 140 through the Language Line Services ALWAYS OPEN

Safe Kids www.safekids.org

Boston Area 617-534-5197 Western MA 413-794-5434 Information on child safety issues

**Samaritans** 617-247-0220, 1-800-SUICIDE, www.samaritansofboston.org Suicide prevention crisis line ALWAYS OPEN

#### **LEGAL AID**

**Disability Law Center** 1-800-872-9992, www.dlc-ma.org Free legal assistance and information for people with disabilities in MA

Harvard Legal Aid Bureau 617-495-4408, www.law.harvard.edu/students/orgs/hlab/ Free legal services about housing, benefits, and family law Languages: Some languages available at certain times Harvard University Small Claims Advisory Service 1-866-627-7577, 617-497-5690, www.hcs.harvard.edu/~scas/ Free advice on consumer law disputes about sums less than \$2000

**Health Law Advocates** 617-338-5241, www.hla-inc.org Legal services for problems with health care and health insurance

#### **La Alianza Hispana 617-427-7175**

Information and referral to a wide range of Spanish-language services Languages: Spanish

**Legal Advocacy and Resource Center** 1-800-342-LAWS, www.larcma.org Free and reduced-fee legal services

#### **Legal Services Center** 617-522-3003

Legal services for housing, family, benefits, and AIDS-related discrimination

Languages: Spanish

#### $\textbf{Massachusetts Bar Association} \ 617\text{-}654\text{-}0400, \ 617\text{-}338\text{-}0585 \ (TDD),$

www.massbar.org

Referrals to legal aid programs and services

Languages: Spanish

### Massachusetts Child Support Customer Service Bureau 1-800-332-2733,

1-800-255-5587 (TTY)

Information on child support laws, filing claims, and help with a specific case

Languages: French, Greek, Portuguese, Spanish

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination 617-994-6000,

413-739-2145, www.mass.gov/mcad

To report complaints about housing, maternity, and employment discrimination

Languages: Spanish

**ALWAYS OPEN** 

Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation 617-367-8544,

www.mlac.org

Legal services for income-eligible people

Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General 617-727-2200,

www.ago.state.ma.us

Help for victims of violent crime and advice on consumer complaints

Languages: Spanish

**Volunteer Lawyers Project** 617-423-0648, 617-338-6790 (TDD)

Help with Supplemental Security Income (SSI) appeals and other cases Languages: Spanish

**Western Massachusetts Legal Services** 1-800-639-1309, www.wmls.org Legal services on housing, Medicaid, SSI, and benefits Languages: Spanish

#### PARENTING AND FAMILY SUPPORT

**Alternative Family Matters** 617-576-6788, www.alternativefamilies.org Information for gay and lesbian parents and those considering parenting

Children's Trust Fund 1-888-775-4KIDS, www.mctf.org Referrals to local parent education groups, parent support groups, and home visiting programs; free materials on preventing child abuse and neglect

**Early Intervention** 1-800-905-8437, 617-624-5992 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs
Developmental assessment, intervention, and family support services to eligible children birth–3 years old

**Early Intervention Partnerships Program** 1-800-311-2229, 617-624-5992 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs
Home visiting program for pregnant women and new mothers

FOR Families Program 1-800-311-2229, 617-624-5992 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs
A home visiting program to help homeless families. Services are free and participation is voluntary

**Family Nurturing Center** 617-474-1143, www.familynurturing.org Information about nurturing programs, parent education, and community-based family support

Fenway Community Health Center 1-888-242-0900, www.fenwayhealth.org Information, resources, activities, and support for gay and lesbian parents and their children; alternative insemination program; programs for gays and lesbians considering parenting

#### **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren** 617-727-7750

Referrals to support groups for grandparents raising their grandchildren; free resource directory

Languages: Spanish

Jewish Family and Children's Service 781-647-JFCS, www.jfcsboston.org Support for new parents through home visiting, support groups, referrals, and consultation.

Massachusetts Adult Literacy Hotline 1-800-447-8844 (voice/TTY) Information about basic skills for parents, early childhood programs for children birth - 12 years old, and home visits. Programs are located in certain communities; some programs offer other languages.

Massachusetts Committee for Children and Youth 1-800-CHILDREN Information about child abuse prevention ALWAYS OPEN

#### Massachusetts Family Network 1-800-447-8844 (voice/TTY)

Parent education, home visits, health and developmental screening, play groups, child care, and transportation for families with children birth-3 years old.

Languages: Some programs offer other languages.

#### Massachusetts Mothers of Twins Association 781-646-TWIN,

www.mmota.org

Referrals to support groups and programs for parents with multiple births

#### Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

1-800-442-3035, www.mspcc.org

Information and referrals to child abuse prevention and home visiting services

#### **Open Door Society Adoption Community of New England**

1-800-932-3678, www.odsacone.org Support for adoptive families and for people who want to learn about adoption

PAL, Parent/Professional Advocacy League 1-866-815-8122, www.ppal.net Support for parents of children with mental, emotional, and behavioral needs

#### **Parental Stress Line** 1-800-632-8188

Confidential counseling, support, and information for parents Languages: Spanish ALWAYS OPEN

#### **Parents Anonymous** 1-800-882-1250

Telephone counseling and referrals to confidential support groups for parents

**Tough Love International** 1-800-333-1069, www.toughlove.org Support and parenting skills for parents of teenagers

#### CHILD CARE AND EARLY EDUCATION

Child Care Resource and Referral Network 1-800-345-0131,

www.masschildcare.org

Information on child care including how to choose a provider, lists of licensed child care providers in your area, and programs that help pay for child care

Languages: Some Spanish available

Head Start Information & Publication Center 1-866-763-6481,

617-565-1128, www.headstart.org

Information on Head Start programs for children 3 - 5 years old in your local area

Languages: Spanish

Massachusetts Department of Education 781-388-3300 ext. 357,

www.doe.mass.edu

Information on early childhood programs

Office of Child Care Services 617-988-6600, www.qualitychildcare.org State agency that monitors and licenses child care programs; receives complaints and sends reports of proven complaints against a provider

Parents United for Childcare/BOSTnet 617-720-1290,

617-720-1292 (TTY), www.pucc.com

Advocacy and referrals for child care

Languages: Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog

#### SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Arc of Massachusetts 781-891-6270, 781-891-6271 (TTY),

www.arcmass.org

Community-based support and services for individuals with cognitive and developmental disabilities and their families

#### **CAST:** Center for Applied Special Technology 781-245-2212,

781-245-9320 (TTY), www.cast.org

Technology for individuals with disabilities, including clinical evaluation, advocacy for inclusion in schools, and use of adaptive devices

Easter Seals Massachusetts 1-800-922-8290, 1-800-564-9700 (TTY),

www.ma.easterseals.com

Referrals for disability services; information on loans for car safety devices, assistive technology, and equipment for children with temporary or chronic disabilities

Family TIES 1-800-905-TIES, 617-624-5992 (TTY),

www.massfamilyties.org

Information, resources, and support for families of children with special health care needs

Languages: Spanish

Family Voices 1-800-331-0688 x 210, 617-624-5992 (TTY),

www.massfamilyvoices.org

Advocacy, support, education, and information for families of children with special health care needs

#### Federation for Children with Special Needs 1-800-351-0688,

617-482-2915 (TTY), www.fcsn.org

Advocacy and service referrals for children with special needs and their parents or guardians

Languages: Spanish

#### Hearing Evaluation and Hearing Aid Programs 1-800-882-1435,

617-624-5992 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs

Information and referrals for infants and toddlers for complete hearing evaluations; evaluations and hearing aids for uninsured children from birth through 21

#### MASSTART (Massachusetts Technology Assistance Resource Team)

508-792-7880, 617-624-5992 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs Information, resources, training, and technical assistance for parents, school staff, and health care providers about medical technology and the health needs of children assisted by medical technology while in school

MBTA Transportation Access 617-222-5123, www.mbta.com Information on accessible transportation services for disabled persons in the Greater Boston area

March of Dimes 508-366-9066, www.marchofdimes.com Materials in English and Spanish on genetic services, birth defects, and children with special needs Massachusetts Advocates for Children 617-357-8431, www.massadvocates.org Advocacy for children needing special education services

#### Massachusetts Assistive Technology Partnership

Languages: Portuguese, Spanish

1-800-848-8867 (voice/TDD), www.matp.org Information on assistive technology products, services, and funding sources for people with disabilities Languages: 140 through the Language Line Services

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Care Coordination Program 1-800-882-1435, 617-624-5992 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs Health care coordination, support, and referral to public and community-based resources for families of children with special health care needs

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Community Support Program 1-800-882-1435, 617-624-5992 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs Information, resources, technical assistance, and referrals for families of children with special health care needs

Massachusetts Office on Disability 1-800-322-2020 (voice/TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs
Information, referrals, and advocacy for people with disabilities

#### New England INDEX 781-642-0248 (voice/TDD)

Referrals to physicians, consultants, multilingual consultants, and technical assistance

Languages: Spanish, other languages available at certain times

#### Newborn Hearing Screening Program 1-800-882-1435,

617-624-5992 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs

Information for families on hearing and hearing loss, hearing testing, and hearing aids

Languages: Spanish

#### PKU Special Dietary Food and Formula Program 1-800-882-1435,

617-624-5992 (TTY), www.mass.gov/eohhs

Special food and formula for uninsured children with PKU and other related metabolic conditions

#### **JOBS AND TRAINING**

#### **Division of Employment and Training** 617-626-6600, 617-727-6156 (TTY)

Job listings and employment training programs

Languages: Some languages available at certain times

#### **Higher Education Information Center** 617-536-0200

Information and advice on educational and career opportunities and sources of financial aid

#### Mass Adult Literacy Hotline 1-800-447-8844

Information and referrals for adult learners for English as a Second Language (ESL), General Education Development (GED) Certificate, family literacy and support programs, and citizenship classes Languages: Spanish

#### Mass Jobs 617-348-5930

Employment and training for consumers of the Department of Transitional Assistance Languages: Spanish

#### Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Health and Safety (MassCOSH)

617-825-7233, www.masscosh.org Information and training on workplace health and safety issues and workers' rights to safe workplaces Languages: Spanish

#### **ADVOCACY AND ACTION**

**Citizen Information Line** 1-800-392-6090 Information about state agencies and programs

#### **Federal Information Center** 1-800-688-9889 Information about federal agencies and programs Languages: Spanish

Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition 617-350-5480, www.miracoalition.org
Information about immigration laws and support for people looking to become citizens

Office for Refugees and Immigrants 617-727-7888, www.mass.gov/eohhs Information and referrals for refugees and immigrants Languages: Some languages available at certain times

**State Representatives and Senators** 617-722-2000, 617-722-2539 (TDD) Call to contact your local representatives about issues that concern you

United Way of Massachusetts Bay Voluntary Action Center 617-624-8186, www.uwmb.org
Local and state volunteer opportunities

# **Notes Page**